GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1152
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2003
FORMAL AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION
T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the combined access parameter of formal and non-formal education in the country was 6.9 while in the developed countries it was in the range of 30 to 55;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are planning to reach a combined access parameter of 10 during the Tenth Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA)

(a) & (b)Yes Sir. The figures refer to the access parameter in the higher education sector. This is true despite the appreciable growth of Higher Education in India since independence viz. the number of Universities has increased by 13 times, colleges by 26 times and enrolment by more than 50 times. Continuous efforts are being made to increase this figure.

(c) & (d) Yes Sir. The strategies to reach a combined access parameter of 10 during the Tenth Plan include:

• To focus on increasing access, quality, adoption of state- specific strategies and the liberalisation of the higher education system.

• Emphasis would also be laid on the relevance of the curriculum, vocationalisation and networking making full use of information & communication technologies.

• To focus on distance education, convergence of formal, non- formal, distance and IT education institutions.

• Increasing private participation in the management of colleges and deemed to be universities.

• To encourage research in frontier areas of knowledge and meeting the challenges in the area of internationalisation of Indian education.